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II. Claims

Claims 1-6, 8-14, 16-22, 24 and 26-34 are currently pending. Claims 26 has been amended as set forth below. The present version and listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims.

1. (previously presented) A method of redacting content from a document in electronic form, comprising the steps of:

- selecting a geometric area on the document for redaction, said geometric area having content comprising at least one image;
- representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;
- identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content;
- representing said identified information as one or more content objects, said one or more content objects comprising one or more image occurrence objects;
- identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects;
- removing said identified content; and
- creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, a redacted document being producible from said output file for display.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the content further comprises text and said one or more content objects further comprise one or more text occurrence objects.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the redacted text and

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redacted at least one image are not found in the redacted document.

5. (previously presented) A computer implemented method for designating portions of a document for redaction, comprising the steps of:

displaying all or a portion of the document;

designating a geographic region of the document for redaction; and

saving the designations with the document,

wherein said step of designating comprises manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation, said content comprising at least one image.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said content further comprises text, wherein said step of designating comprises designating all geographic regions containing content selected by a user for batch designation.

9. (previously presented) A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

permitting a user to select a geometric area on a document for redaction;

representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;

identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content, said content comprising at least one image;

representing said identified information as one or more content objects, said one or more content objects comprising one or more image occurrence objects;

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identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects;
removing said identified content; and
creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, a redacted document being producible from said output file.

10. (original) The storage medium of claim 9, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

11. (previously presented) The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the content further comprises text and said one or more content objects further comprise one or more text occurrence objects.

12. (previously presented) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the text and at least one image marked for redaction have been removed in the redacted document.

13. (previously presented) A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

displaying all or a portion of a document;

permitting a user to designate a geographic region of the document for redaction; and

saving the designation with the document;

wherein said step of designating comprises manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation, said content comprising at least one image.

14. (original) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the further step of associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

15. (canceled)

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16. (previously presented) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said content further comprises text, wherein said step of permitting a user to designate comprises permitting a user to select content for batch designation and designating all geographic regions containing said selected content.

17. (previously presented) A system for redacting content from a document in electronic form, comprising:

means for permitting a user to select a geometric area on the document for redaction;

means for representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;

means for identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content, said content comprising at least one image;

means for representing said identified information as one or more content objects, said one or more content objects comprising one or more image occurrence objects; and

means for identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects;

means for removing said identified content, and

means for creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, a redacted document being producible from said output file.

18. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

19. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the content further comprises text and said one or more content objects further comprise one or more text occurrence objects.

20. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the information to be redacted is not

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found in the redacted document.

21. (previously presented) A computer implemented system for designating portions of a document for redaction, comprising the steps of:

means for displaying all or a portion of the document;

means for permitting a user to designate a geographic region of the document for redaction, said permitting means comprising means for manipulating a frame displayed on the document while content having a geographic location within said frame is visible to the user, said content comprising at least one image; and

means for saving the designations with the document.

22. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said content further comprises text, wherein said means for permitting a user to designate comprises permitting a user to select content for batch designation and means for designating all geographic regions containing said selected content.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of redacting content from a document in portable document format (PDF), comprising the steps of:

selecting a first geometric area on the document for redaction, said first geometric area having content comprising at least one image;

selecting a second geometric area on the document for redaction, said second geometric area having content comprising text;

representing said geometric areas as annotation objects;

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parsing said document into one or more content objects representing content and location and nature of content in said document, said one or more content objects comprising one or more text occurrence objects and one or more image occurrence objects;

identifying content from said one or more content objects having the same geometric location as said annotation objects; and

creating an output PDF file having said identified content removed therefrom, wherein a redacted document is producible from said output PDF file.

27. (previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said selecting step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

28. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said information identifying step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

29. (previously presented) The storage medium of Claim 9, wherein the information identifying step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the information

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identifying means comprises:

means for displaying all or a portion of the document; and

means for manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said removing step comprises replacing pixels corresponding to said identified content.

32. (previously presented) The medium of claim 9, wherein said removing step comprises replacing pixels corresponding to said identified content.

33. (previously presented) The medium of claim 17, wherein said means for removing said identified content replaces pixels corresponding to said identified content.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of replacing pixels corresponding to said content comprising at least one image.